

VISIT...

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Tutor Teaching Tips

The Last Great Race (v)

MATERIALS

Leveled reader

Graphic organizer

Game cards;
Game board;
Markers

Graphic organizer;
Leveled reader

Before Reading



3–5 minutes

BUILD BACKGROUND: Ask: *What kind of dog is used to pull a sled over snow?*

PREVIEW THE BOOK: Show the child the covers of the book, and read the title. Ask: *What do you think the last great race is? Where do you think it takes place?*

Open the book to the table of contents and read the chapter titles. Have the child look at the photos and read the captions in the book to get a sense of what the race is and where it takes place. Have the child look at the map on page 10.

Point out a word in bold in the text, for example, *grueling* on page 4. Show the child how to find the word in the glossary.

During Reading



10–15 minutes

Ask the child to read pages 4–14 aloud. If the child has difficulty, read the pages together. Then ask the child to read them independently. Have the child work out unfamiliar words by looking at the letters and word parts. Tell the child to think what word makes sense in the sentence. If the child cannot work out the word, tell him/her. Have the child reread the sentence with the word and then continue reading.

After Reading



10–15 minutes

RETELL: Ask the child what he/she learned about the Iditarod from reading pages 4–14. If necessary, prompt by asking: *What else did you learn?*

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER: Review that a fact is a true statement that can be checked and proven and an opinion is what someone thinks or feels about something. Have the child find the statements on the graphic organizer that occur on pages 4–14 in the text, and decide whether they are facts or opinions. Explain that he/she can complete the graphic organizer after finishing the book.

CRITICAL THINKING: Ask: *What do you think it would be like to travel across Alaska behind a dogsled in the dead of winter? Would you like to do this? Why or why not?*

VOCABULARY GAME: Read the words on the game cards with the child. Explain that these are words that have prefixes and suffixes added to a root word. Shuffle the cards and place them in a stack word-side up on the table. Have the child draw a card, read the word, and say what the root word is. Have the child check the answer on the back. If correct, he/she can move along the game board the number of spaces indicated on the card. Have the child place the card at the bottom of the stack. It is now your turn to draw a card.

Home Connection

Have the child finish reading the book at home and complete the graphic organizer.

Statement	Page Number	Fact or Opinion?
A terrible disease called diphtheria struck Nome in the winter of 1925.	5	
The Iditarod is without a doubt one of the most grueling sporting events ever held.	4	
The 1968 race was cancelled because of lack of snow.	8	
Some of the most beautiful scenery in the world is seen along the Iditarod trail.	13	
The fastest Iditarod time is 8 days, 22 hours, and 46 minutes.	15	
Sled dog racing is a solo sport.	16	
It is not the money or the fame that attracts the mushers.	22	
Husky fur keeps body heat from escaping.	17	
The huskies are the true heroes of the race.	22	

INSTRUCTIONS: Find each statement in the book and reread the section where it is found. Then decide whether the statement is a fact or an opinion.

Directions: These game cards are two-sided. Print or copy back-to-back to make one set of cards.

Leveled Reader



Game Cards (FRONT)

***The Last Great Race* (V)**

introduction

usually

suggested

unfortunately

demonstrated

surrounding

finisher

dangerous

required

beautiful

snowy

competition

ceremonial

longest

differences

celebration

Directions: These game cards are two-sided. Print or copy back-to-back to make one set of cards.

Leveled Reader

 Game Cards (BACK)

The Last Great Race (V)

fortunate

5

suggest

2

usual

2

introduce

4

danger

3

finish

1

surround

1

demonstrate

3

compete

5

snow

2

beauty

3

require

4

celebrate

4

differ

5

long

3

ceremony

4

Leveled Reader

Game Board

The Last Great Race (v)

